

Message Text

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SUBJECT: JOINT ROMANIAN-AMERICAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL
BUCHAREST MEETING

1. BUCHAREST, JUNE 1: THE HIGHEST RANKING GROUP OF
U.S. CORPORATE EXECUTIVES EVER TO ASSEMBLE IN ROMANIA
MET FOR AN HOUR TODAY WITH PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUSESCU
AND RECEIVED ENCOURAGEMENT TO DO MORE BUSINESS
WITH ROMANIAN ENTERPRISES. "WE ARE WILLING TO WORK OUT
FORMS OF COOPERATION THAT BEST SUIT YOUR AND OUR NEEDS,"
HE TOLD THEM.

2. THIS VIEW WAS A RECURRENT THEME IN DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN THE AMERICANS AND THEIR ROMANIAN COUNTERPARTS
WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE
ROMANIAN-U.S. ECONOMIC COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL WAS
ESTABLISHED BY AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN DECEMBER 1973
BY THE ROMANIAN AND U.S. CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE DURING
PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

3. THE AMERICAN SECTION, COMPRISING 44 EXECUTIVES
FROM 25 FIRMS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS WAS HEADED
BY GABRIEL HAUGE, CHAIRMAN, MANUFACTURERS HANOVER
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TRUST CO OF NEW YORK. THE ROMANIAN SECTION IS HEADED

BY VASILE VOLOSENIUC, PRESIDENT OF THE ROMANIAN BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND INCLUDED AS MEMBERS TOP OFFICIALS OF MINISTRIES, INDUSTRIAL CONTROLS AND FOREIGN TRADE ORGANIZATIONS.

4. THE TWO DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT MFN TARIFF TREATMENT FOR ROMANIA IS A KEY ELEMENT TO EXPANDING ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE AMERICANS REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY TO GRANT NON-DISCRIMINATORY TARIFF STATUS TO ROMANIA.

5. THE TWO SECTIONS ALSO AGREED TO ENCOURAGE AMERICAN AND ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN LICENSING, MARKETING AND MANUFACTURING.

6. THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT IT SHOULD STRIVE FOR THE FREEST POSSIBLE FLOW OF BILATERAL TRADE. THE ROMANIANS URGED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO REMOVE EXPORT AND IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND BOTH SECTIONS AGREED THAT THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICIAL COMMERCIAL PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES SHOULD BE SIMPLIFIED IN ORDER TO EXPAND BILATERAL TRADE.

7. THE ROMANIAN AND U.S. SECTIONS ADOPTED A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO FOSTER BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. CONCURRENT WITH THE COUNCIL MEETING, THE AMERICANS MET INDIVIDUALLY WITH PRINCIPAL ROMANIAN COMMERCIAL OFFICIALS TO PURSUE SPECIFIC BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

8. THE COUNCIL PLANS TO HOLD ITS SECOND PLENARY MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN THE SPRING OF 1975.
BARNES

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